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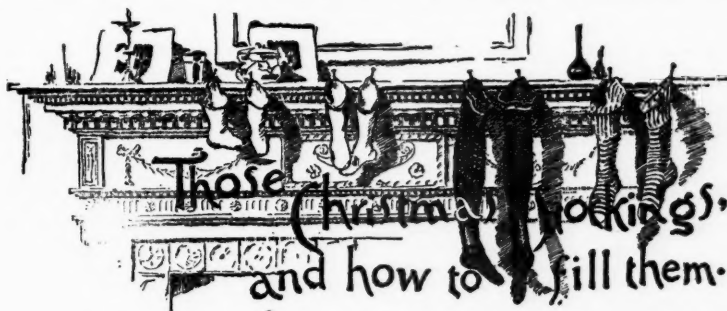
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REVIEW OF THE WEEK.

THE reports of the doings of the Fisheries Commission are conflicting. Some accounts say that progress has been made. Others state that when the Commission adjourned to allow the Canadian delegates to go home for the holidays, the two sides were not one step nearer to an agreement. Nor do we see how they can be. Unless the Americans on the Commission concede Canada's demand for free trade in fish, they will have yielded nothing that the Canadians want. And we are assured that that is what they will not yield. If the Liberals were in power in Canada, and were represented on the Commission, they would open up the larger subject of Commercial Union. But the Conservatives are committed against that, and will go no further than to talk of a Reciprocity Treaty, *i. e.* of Free Trade, not only in fish but in everything else of the sort Canada produces in abundance, with no relaxation of duties upon any of the distinctive products of the United States. But that is even more useless than to propose free trade in fish alone.

Canada should take heed to her ways in this matter. If this Commission adjourns without reaching a conclusion which commends itself to the American mind as just, the time cannot be distant when the ports of this country will be closed to her shipping except for "wood, water and shelter." Thus far, Mr. Cleveland has stood between her and the expressed will of the American people in this regard. But he will not be able to continue that course for another year. His own party will force him to use the powers Congress has given him, rather than take the odium of a cowardly policy into the next presidential election.

THE Report of the Secretary of the Navy shows a creditable advance in the work of creating a navy of modern armament. All the ships authorized by Congress are under way, and the fact that the Pacific Coast shares in the work of their construction points to the growth of San Francisco not only as a commercial emporium but as a ship-building centre.

The Secretary corrects some partisan exaggerations with regard to the outlay upon the wooden ships which the Navy carried over from the war period. He puts that outlay at \$70,000,000 in all, or about \$3,500,000 a year. As Democratic newspapers and speakers have been estimating it at \$20,000,000 a year, the correction is valuable. A garbled account of Captain Bunce's report upon the defects of the *Atlanta*—the last finished of the cruisers built at the Roach ship-yard—created the impression that the Department was continuing to fight against a dead man for the sake of a party advantage. But it now appears that the criticisms made by Captain Bunce were moderate and reasonable, and Mr. Whitney endorses the report with a memorandum to the effect that the defects complained of were involved in the plan on which the vessel was constructed, and some of them "were intentionally overlooked by her designers, for the purpose of securing benefits in other directions." He very properly refuses to expend \$200,000 in altering her, until further service has brought out her weak and strong points.

Upon one point Mr. Whitney speaks in a manner so creditable that we quote a paragraph or two. Speaking of the contracts for armor and gun steel, he says that they have been made "at prices within 25 per cent. of the European price for the similar article," not greater than the difference in cost in labor, and regardless of the heavy expenditure for plant. He then adds:

"These gratifying results have been greatly stimulated by the ship-building interest of the country. My attention was early called to the fact that our ship-builders were shut out from building for any foreign govern-

ment by reason of the fact that neither armor nor gun steel nor secondary batteries could be supplied in this country. The construction of war vessels for other countries has been a large industry for the ship-builders of Great Britain. It is believed that our private shipyards can produce war ships equal and perhaps superior to those produced elsewhere, when these industries shall have been established. The ship-builders have, therefore, zealously coöperated with the Department in stimulating and furthering this object. It is notable in this connection that the efforts of the Department to raise the standard of the material for the ships have resulted in a class of material believed to be superior to that ever produced for any similar purpose."

MR. WHITNEY takes up a suggestion, first made by Mr. Washburne, our minister to Paraguay, to create a marine militia. But his recommendations extend only to the men and officers we should need to man our ships in case of war. He says nothing of imitating the English policy of securing the construction of fast iron vessels, which could be converted to war uses on short notice. Col. Merriman, of New York, will introduce a bill to provide for the enrolment of ships. The Secretary of the Navy, assisted by a Board, is to pass upon the fitness of vessels offered for this purpose. Such vessels are to be inspected annually, and are to be held subject to public use, whenever the President may call for them. They are to receive a small annual bounty, proportional to their speed and capacity. The government is to be regarded not as buying, but as chartering such vessels for the period of their service in the navy, and after that they revert to their owners. If the bill were to pass, it would cost the country in bounties less than it now costs to buy up ships on the outbreak of a war. And these bounties would stimulate ship-building and would help to restore our flag to its old place on the ocean.

CONGRESS shows more, if possible, than the usual amount of indisposition to begin work seriously until after the holidays. Of course there is no limit but the heats of midsummer to the length of a first session. But it probably is not for this reason that the Speaker and his friends in the House are so much disposed to take their time. Both factions of the party feel that there is a stormy and unpleasant time ahead, and neither is eager to sail at once into the cyclone. The President's message has had the good effect of making the Free Trade issue so clearly as to put great difficulty in the way of compromise. He has made it less easy to get up a bill which each faction can claim as the expression of its own principles, and he has focused the attention of the country upon the proceedings of the House in a way which must make many Democrats uncomfortable. They know by past experience that while they will hear from the President before a bill is drafted, they will hear from their constituents afterward. In every recent case the tide has been turned by the hearings before the Committee of Ways and Means.

It is said that Mr. Carlisle's delay in making up the committee has been due to a disagreement as to the most important place. The Southwest, including Kentucky, wants Mr. Mills of Texas, and to him the place was as good as promised before Congress met. But his subsequent behavior raised a strong opposition to that selection. Although not admitted to the presidential conferences over the Tariff, he was informed of the results reached, with an admonition to keep them secret. But it is said that he drafted a Tariff bill on the lines decided upon, and sent it to the Statistical Bureau for information of some sort,—probably to learn what reduction of the revenue it would effect. From that bureau it leaked out to the public through the *Ledger* of this city. It appears that Mr. Cleveland and his friends were annoyed about this to an extent of which the public had no conception. It was not his own ideas but theirs that Mr. Mills had divulged in this way

and the consequences might be very far-reaching. So—it is said—the President has urged the substitution of Mr. Scott, of the Erie district of this State, for Mr. Mills, as chairman of that committee. But this raised another difficulty. Pennsylvania, especially on the theory of the distribution of chairmanships which Mr. Carlisle has accepted, could not have two important places of that kind. To send Mr. Randall to an insignificant committee or to leave him off altogether would be to precipitate the war between the two wings of the party, which Mr. Carlisle naturally wishes to avoid. It is true that the *Times* of New York urges Mr. Carlisle to crush Mr. Randall by ignoring him, but experience has shown that Mr. Samuel J. Randall is not amenable to that kind of treatment, and least so in a House where the Democratic majority is a baker's dozen of votes.

At this writing the Senate has taken no action upon the very important nominations to two cabinet places and the seat on the Supreme Bench, which the President sent in at the opening of the session. There seems to be little hope that any of them will be rejected. While the Republican senators generally perceive the strong objections that exist to the confirmation of Mr. Lamar as justice of the Supreme Court, there is a group among them which are open to the influences the White House can always bring to bear. It is a public misfortune that an appointment of so much importance as this should not have consideration in the Senate strictly upon its merits, or, if that is too much to hope for, that the decision should be reached without the element of White House influence being intruded.

SENATOR CAMERON has introduced what is probably a worthy bill, to give government aid to American commerce. But in connection with it, he once more handed in the bill to admit the foreign-built ships of the "Red Star" line to American registration. As there is nothing in the case of these ships to commend them for such a favor, which is not equally applicable to every other ship of foreign build and American ownership, the measure would simply be to open the door to the destruction of our registration laws. It would be a direct blow to the iron, steel, and ship-building interests of the Commonwealth which Mr. Cameron is sent to represent in the Senate.

THE Republican National Committee have decided that the National Convention shall meet next year on the 19th of June in Chicago. The choice lay between Chicago and Philadelphia, the well known hospitality of our city and the number of places of public interest which are accessible being the considerations which weighed in its favor. But Chicago has abundant hotel accommodations, and is far nearer to the centre of population, although a rather ugly and uninteresting place, with a dreadful climate. So the committee probably decided rightly in preferring it.

THE "readiness" of Mr. Blaine is proverbial: it received a new illustration last week, when he so promptly furnished in Paris a long criticism upon Mr. Cleveland's message, to be forwarded by cable to the New York *Tribune*. What he said about the message was in substance the same that Republicans generally had already said, but the elaboration of his remarks, and the flourish with which they were presented might convey the idea that the country waited to form its opinion until the candidate of 1884 was heard from, and that he thus made the official Republican reply to Mr. Cleveland's manifesto. It was not a very happy association that the document was put in charge of Mr. Smalley, the London correspondent of the *Tribune*, who has so identified himself with the present Tory administration in England, and who seems to have come to Paris for the purpose. Mr. Blaine was nearly elected President, by the support of men in New York city who have been outraged, week after week, by the Tory partisanship of Mr. Smalley's despatches, and who would vastly prefer not to have the state papers of the Republican party dealt out by him.

Another rather odd circumstance is that Mr. Blaine's strongest newspaper supporter in the West,—a thick-and-thin advocate of his renomination,—the Chicago *Tribune*, emphatically endorses Mr. Cleveland's message, and has the effrontery to pretend that the proposals in it to break up the Tariff are tolerable by Republicans. The Free Trade *Tribune* and the Tory correspondent are supporters whom Mr. Blaine could conveniently spare, at the time when great efforts are making to start his "boom" once more.

It is pointed out by the *Press* of this city that in the States which voted this last autumn the Republicans did much better than four years ago. It counts that the net Democratic majority in them (Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Ohio, Iowa, Virginia), in 1883, was 5,261, while now there is a net Republican majority of 97,813, showing a net Republican gain of 103,074. The gains have been, however, in Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, and Ohio, which are always relied upon to choose Republican electors, and in New Jersey and Virginia, which cannot be counted as anything more than disputable; while, so far as New York is concerned, the Democratic majority this year is reduced only about a thousand below what it was in 1883. And, unfortunately, it is the vote of that State which is to be considered. There might be a substantial increase of Republican strength in many other States without altering the Presidential situation a particle.

It is notable that New York Republicans, at this juncture, decline to consent to a renomination of Mr. Blaine. We remarked at the time of the State Convention how small a part of the delegates expressed themselves in favor of it, and time seems to have deepened the conviction that the risks of 1884 should not again be taken. A canvass made by the Albany *Journal* among the Republicans elected to the approaching session of the Legislature shows only about a dozen who avow themselves for Blaine, all the others being unwilling to so declare. If New York cannot see the wisdom of taking him, what is the use of talking of his candidacy at all?

ON Thursday a great convention of delegates from Republican Clubs met in Chickering Hall, New York. As some 250 clubs were represented, and nearly every State and Territory was on the roll, the meeting was one of importance. There are both advantages and dangers connected with such an assembly. So far as it helps to inspirit the party, and to lead to an interchange of views as to the best methods of organization and of work in election contests, there is nothing but gain in the movement. But it must be remembered that such clubs are composed chiefly of our *citoyens actifs*, who are inclined to believe not only in the party, but in their own right to select its candidates and dictate its policy. We are not aware that there have been any signs of a disposition to encroach on the rights of the less active members of the party in the present instance. But as the danger of this is always present there is wisdom in guarding against the abuse of an organization which might supersede the regular organs of party action. Tammany Hall had an even more innocent beginning.

ON Friday night of last week a meeting was held in Association Hall to consider the arguments advanced in behalf of an Arbitration Treaty with Great Britain. It was the wish of the promoters of the meeting to emphasize the fact that there is no such harmony of views on the subject as our British visitors and others might be led to suppose from the uniform character of the meetings which had been held in connection with their visit.

In his address on the occasion Prof. R. E. Thompson, of the University, analyzed Great Britain's war record in the seventy years which followed the general pacification of Europe,—1815–1885. He showed that during fifty-eight of these years the British government has been at war; and during twenty-two years only has been at peace. She has waged forty-four distinct and separate wars during that time, and in nearly every case upon nations less civilized and powerful than herself. In only two cases,

he said, had she, in school-boy phrase, "taken a man of her size," those two being Russia and the Transvaal Republic of South Africa! These facts become the more striking when we compare the first half of this period with the second. The division comes just a little after her adoption of those principles of Free Trade which were to inaugurate an era of international good feeling, and thus bring war to an end through the operation of the motive of self-interest. Fourteen wars were fought in the thirty-five years when England was a Protectionist country; thirty in the thirty-five years when she was holding forth "Free Trade and Peace" as a panacea for international difficulties!

In view of this fact it was urged that a Treaty of Arbitration would be a measure not in the interests of peace, but of the meanest and most cruel wars known in modern history. By removing all apprehension of a collision with America, it would leave England's hands free for the suppression of weaker nationalities and their absorption into her Empire. For the motives which lead her to desire this arrangement with us do not apply in any measure to her relations with Burmah, Afghanistan, the Zulus, the Egyptians and the Japanese. She wants no arbitration with them.

THE municipal election in Boston resulted in the transfer of the control of the Board of Aldermen from the Democrats to the Republicans. Mr. O'Brien is re-elected mayor by a much reduced majority, his opponent Mr. Hart being supported by both the Republicans and the Independents. The Democrats retain control of the City Council. It is alleged that a full vote would have defeated Mr. O'Brien; but it is useless to speculate about unknown quantities. The Irish in Boston are the most solid and energetic element in the city, and are almost all Catholics and Democrats. They control three-eighths of the voting population, and they generally have enough American Bourbons on their side to secure a majority. It cannot be claimed that they have made a wise use of their power in that city. They have permitted a ring of selfish politicians to use the city government for the promotion of jobs, and they have revived the memories of Boston's greatest infamy by persecuting preachers who used the Common for their entirely legitimate purpose. And they have never used their power to impose any restraints upon the liquor traffic. In fact, their city committee is under the control of the saloon-keepers. These are things which are hurtful to the whole Irish people in America, and also to the cause of Ireland itself. Almost every American who is apathetic or antipathetic to the Irish cause will be found to be so from disgust with the indifference of so many Irish-Americans to the cause of good government in this land of their adoption.

IN the municipal election which followed the vote on Local Option in Atlanta the opponents of the prohibitory policy again won the fight. That they are not a party especially favorable to the liquor interest is shown by their fixing \$1500 as the payment for a license to retail liquor in that city. Indeed a consideration which seems to have influenced the vote was that whiskey was freely drunk in Atlanta, in spite of Prohibition, while the city derived no revenue from the traffic, and thus was obliged to increase the direct taxes on real and personal estate above the rate which had prevailed before the local option law went into effect. This statement of the case is confirmed by the analysis of the vote by wards. The ward in which the negro population is most concentrated gave a very small majority against local option, the influence of the colored preachers with their flocks making that one of the most favorable to prohibition. It was in the wealthy white wards that prohibition had the most active opponents. And this evidence as to the negroes is gratifying, for it is most undesirable that they should regard their interests as bound up with that of whiskey and "saloons."

A LEGISLATIVE commission is sitting in New York to investigate the subject of telephone charges. It brings out the fact that there are but 7,000 subscribers in the whole city. The representa-

tives of the Bell Company charge this to the want of accommodations; but the true reason probably is to be found in their preference for a smaller constituency at high rates to a larger one at low rates. Of the merchants who testified before the commission nearly all declared the charges excessive and the service unsatisfactory. When the representatives of the company undertook to show the contrary, by the use of the telephone then at hand, the experience was such as to support the complaint.

One expert witness stated that the Bell Company had so managed matters as to enable them to extend their patent monopoly to a period twice as long as that for which it was granted. The Bell instrument itself would be of little use without the carbon attachment invented by two Americans simultaneously, or nearly so. Both these inventions the company has purchased, and one of them it uses. But it has not patented them and will not do so until the time for the expiry of the Bell patent is at hand. It thus will renew its monopoly at the very moment when the public had expected to be freed from it. This certainly is a case for the amendment of the patent laws. It should be specified that a patent shall begin from the day when its inventor or his assignees have made a commercial use of the principle it involves.

There is evidence that this investigation is leading to a juster estimate of the character of the Bell Company than was prevalent before the stir which was raised over Mr. Garland's unfortunate step in the matter of suing to have its patents declared illegal.

THE Evangelical Alliance is by no means so great a power in the religious life of Europe and America as Lord Shaftesbury and others of its founders expected it to become. The religious movement on both sides of the ocean has been rather away from than towards its somewhat narrow platform of principles; and even the churches and parties within churches, called Evangelical, find it difficult to arouse much enthusiasm for a fellowship which excludes so much of Christendom. But it still is a large and important organization, and its recent sessions at Washington showed its ability to command the services of able and thoughtful speakers in its discussions. Perhaps the most notable paper was that read by Prof. H. H. Boyesen, of Columbia College, on the Restriction of Immigration. It furnished another illustration of the fact that it is the better class of our naturalized citizens who are most eager to put a stop to the flood of anti-social and degrading elements, which are invading America. Prof. Boyesen expressed his approval of the bill proposed by Senator Palmer of Michigan, which has been prepared in consultation with the editor of the principal German newspaper in Chicago. It authorizes the President, upon requisition of three reputable citizens, to command any alien mischief-maker to leave the country. The requisition must be accompanied with evidence that he has attacked the social order and recommended resort to violence for its overthrow. This certainly reduces the power to be conferred to very strict limits, and probably its only effect would be to make such agitators avoid such direct and straightforward language as would bring them within reach of the law, without in the least diminishing their power for evil. Why not forbid aliens to discuss public questions either publicly or in print?

THE State of Massachusetts has a compulsory education law, which is not enforced, as is the case with all such laws in this country. To enforce it an inspector of private schools by the representatives of the State is provided for. This is needed to insure that the schools which are not part of the public school system are schools within the meaning of the law. After ignoring this provision for several years, the inspectors attempted to enforce it by visiting the parish schools of the Roman Catholic Church in their official capacity. In at least one case the inspector was refused admittance except as a visitor. He would not be allowed to interrupt any part of the school routine to test the kind of work done for its scholars. He had a letter of introduction from Abp. Williams, but the priest in charge declined to regard this as authorizing him to exercise his official functions.

In this we think the school authorities made a grave mistake. Whether or not the state has the right and the power to educate, it certainly has the right to exercise such a supervision over the whole educational system, in order to ascertain that the work done is adequate to its own requirements. In England and Ireland the Roman Catholic schools submit to constant examinations from the school inspectors in order to obtain a "grant in aid." This concedes the principle, even although Massachusetts gives and means to give nothing to these parish schools. And in England the parish schools which decline the "grant in aid," are still liable to inspection by the representatives of the government. Archdeacon Dennison tells with glee how he drove off an inspector from his parish school by setting the children to sing a ditty from Mother Goose.

MR. BERRY, of Wolverhampton, has declined the call to Plymouth Church in a letter which does him great credit. He admits that the offer held out to him was a very tempting one. He indulges in no edifying talk about his own inadequacy to so great a charge. But he concludes that he is better fitted to serve his own country than America, and that England has more need of him. If Plymouth Church will take to heart the premises which lead him to this conclusion, she will call an American to her pulpit, and not an Englishman. The letter amply justifies the one voter who refused to unite in the call to Mr. Berry, on grounds such as that gentleman now takes.

IN England the Protection question is coming to the front, in spite of the leaders. At a great meeting of the representatives of the agricultural interest at Oxford, a resolution calling for Protection was passed by an immense majority. And everywhere throughout the kingdom the farmers and the shop-keepers are uniting in the demand that the interests of English industry shall not be subordinated to the discussion of Irish questions. Lord Hartington showed his sense of the weight of the Protectionist movement when he announced that no step the Tories would take in that matter would alienate the Liberal Unionists from giving them a general support. He intends that the business of holding Ireland under English rule shall take precedence of every other. But in this declaration he spoke without authority. The Liberal Unionists are made up of two uncongenial elements. One half or more is composed of old Whigs, like Lord Hartington himself, who have no direct interest in trade and have nothing to lose by a return to Protection. The rest are Radicals, led by Mr. Bright and Mr. Chamberlain, who hate Protection even worse than they hate Home Rule. Mr. Bright and Mr. Chamberlain never discovered how valuable the Union was until Mr. Parnell announced that the Irish Parliament would have to take care of Irish manufactures as well as of Irish land. They now are in a dilemma. Their own allies may be driven by the new movement to take up the Protectionist policy, and establish a Tariff of that kind for England. Mr. Bright becomes violent at the prospect, and talks of the Tariff as "a dog returning to his vomit." His organ and that of Mr. Chamberlain denounce Lord Hartington for hinting at the very possibility of acquiescence in such a policy. Mr. Chamberlain will be needed at home to help Mr. Bright in the defense of the interests of Birmingham.

The restoration of the duty on cereals would be easy—indeed its repeal never would have occurred—if English agriculture were the employment of the majority of the English people. The land-owning class destroyed their own party and sacrificed the interests of their industry when they drove the people from their small holdings into the towns to become factory-hands. No measure of Protection to English agriculture should be enacted, unless it be accompanied by an agreement in form of law to restore the yeoman class. The need of this restoration is widely felt. London is discussing plans for "home colonization," by which her unemployed and destitute may be converted into a land-tilling peasantry. The present time is opportune for that experiment. The

weight of American and Indian competition has forced land down to a price lower than at any time within the reach of human memory. But all such experiments would be checked by legislation which did nothing but relieve the English land-owner from his foreign competitors.

LORD HARTINGTON gave his English hearers on the same occasion his estimate of the Irish situation. His recent visit to Dublin was not under the most favorable auspices for learning much about the condition of things. He had no speech with any one outside of the official circle and the frightened and fawning Unionists who gathered to hear him speak. But he declares that the condition of the country is no better than it was, and that everywhere boycotting and other forms of League repression are in full vogue. It was very indiscreet in his lordship to say this. Mr. Balfour's organs have been assuring the world of the contrary,—that the power of the League has been broken by coercion, and that there is more safety for life and property than for years past. Indeed if this be false and Lord Hartington be right, the policy of Coercion is already proved a failure. But the Whig leader showed the true aristocratic temper when he alleged the failure of the law as a reason for persisting in enforcing it.

His presence and that of Mr. Goschen in Dublin seems to have encouraged the landlords to take higher ground as regards their rights. They now ask the government to reimburse them for the losses they have sustained in the reduction of their rents by the land courts. As the reductions were based mainly on the consideration that the tenant had a right to live, and to enjoy the full value of the improvements he had made, the demand is a bold one. And the act expressly limited the consideration of unexhausted improvements made by the tenant to those of recent years. Had this limit not been set, the landlord would have received little more than what Mr. Parnell calls "the prairie value of the lands." We observe that they do not propose that anybody shall compensate for their improvements the tenants recently evicted because their inability to pay their rent put them outside the protection of the Land Act. Lord Salisbury assures an English audience that "nobody in Ireland now is turned out of a house he has built; all such statements are falsehoods." And yet within a month an Irish farmer, who failed to pay a rent of £36, has been driven out of a home which with other buildings on the farm had cost him £200. Who is to compensate him?

THE situation in France has been again excited for a few days by a vile attempt to assassinate M. Jules Ferry, the leader of the Conservative wing of the Republican party. The injuries he received are not severe, and there is no reason to believe that the crank who did it represented anybody but himself. But it is fortunate that the election of a President intent upon peace both at home and abroad preceded the event and deprived it of political significance.

M. Carnot finds it not easy to secure a ministry to represent the whole Republican party which elected him. That was a natural impulse, but not a practical plan. The Republicans who follow M. Ferry will not coalesce with those who adhere to M. Clemenceau. The outcome of the attempt is a weak and makeshift cabinet under the presidency of M. Tirard, who will hold office until the legislature meets. It would have been wiser to recognize the fact that the 616 senators and delegates who elected the President are divided widely, and that the ministry must represent any combination of groups which can secure a majority.

RUSSIA emphasizes her displeasure at her exclusion from the league of Central Europe by massing troops on the Austro-Hungarian frontier. The dual monarchy retaliates and the bourses are thrown into a flurry. Then the Czar's organs explain that he does not mean anything, and stocks go up again. And another act of the comedy of military diplomacy closes.

THE ATTEMPT TO RENOMINATE MR. BLAINE.

THE message of Mr. Cleveland has made some of the simple minded think that anybody can now beat him. And this thought of the simple-minded has led to the further one: "Then let us again nominate Mr. Blaine."

Consider the facts of this case, for a moment.

It is everywhere seen and admitted that the President, representing his party, has made up the issues of 1888, and that in the Northern States generally he has impaired the Democratic strength. But in viewing the elections of next year, Mr. Cleveland considered them as a simple problem. He disregarded the States where a Free Trade avowal would hurt him, and he aimed at those alone where he believed it would help him. The Solid South he considers surely solid, and it gives him 153 votes of the 201 which he needs. He therefore looks only to that part of the North where the real contest must be made, and this, as he perceives, is in and about the city of New York. Around that centre are grouped the 36 electors of New York State, the 9 of New Jersey, and the 6 of Connecticut, making 51 in all, and giving him 204 votes. Other States he will try for,—Indiana, Wisconsin, California, Nevada, and Oregon, perhaps,—but the three that are necessary to his success he strikes for, with a single blow.

Now, how much has his Free Trade manifesto weakened him in the city of New York, and in the circles controlled from that centre?

Mr. Cleveland did not write this message without the belief, and perhaps the knowledge, that the trade interests of that city, largely foreign as they are, would support him with all their strength upon the platform which the message announces. He awakens all their force. Nothing so encouraging to them has been written by an American President in more than a quarter of a century,—within which time the imports of the United States have been doubled, and the wealth and influence of alien trade resident in New York city have quadrupled. It is as certain as the course of the sun that when November comes the Free Trade strength of that city, through its newspapers, through its social influences, through its writers and speakers, and,—above all, in such a contest,—through its money, will be exerted to the last ounce in behalf of a candidate who has openly abused and assailed the Protective policy. General Hancock did but evade the question, intending to guard himself and party from the implication of being opposed to Protection, but Mr. Cleveland throws such caution to the winds, and proclaims his opposition in the loudest and shrillest of tones. If the response to this from the Free Trade city were not as swift and as hearty as the proclamation is vehement it would be because like had ceased answering to like, and food no longer appeased hunger.

Whom, then, are the Republicans to nominate against Mr. Cleveland? As he has intensified the energy of his support at the critical point, the question becomes more important than ever. Do they want a candidate who will win from the Democratic vote of 1884, or a candidate who has already succumbed to it? They must face the issue in this shape. It is plain, in spite of denials and disclaimers, that Mr. Blaine's "boom" is again to be set in motion, if it be possible to make it move. The evidences of this are seen in those circles from which the work in his behalf was directed four years ago, and they place the whole of the political situation in the clear light of the simple question whether Mr. Cleveland is to be encountered in his own citadel with a candidate whose weakness there has already been demonstrated.

The peril of the Republican organization is extreme. It gave way, in 1884, in the face of certain embarrassment and probable defeat, to Mr. Blaine's nomination. Since the Cincinnati convention of 1876, his weakness in New York and elsewhere had been well known, and the danger of his candidacy had been understood by every intelligent party man. But the demand, unwise as it was, of many voters in the Republican States of the North for his leadership overbore the prudence and good judgment of the conven-

tion of 1884, and the dangerous way was preferred to the many safe ones which offered themselves. It led, as all know, to defeat. It revolutionized the national executive. It put into the White House the representative not of the nation, but of the Southern States. It set in motion political forces which must either be checked eleven months hence, or they will go on to make the revolution complete in all the departments of the general government.

It might be supposed that what was lost in 1884 was enough to lose wilfully. It might be presumed that the Republicans of the United States valued too highly their own usefulness to the country, and esteemed too much the principles and policy they have in charge, to needlessly put everything in peril again. And if this be true, how can they possibly think for one moment of again incurring the dangers of 1884, when these are augmented on both sides,—on one by the decline of Mr. Blaine's strength, and on the other by the increased vigor of Mr. Cleveland's support at the key-point of the engagement? If the taking of risk three years ago was inexcusable, the repetition of it, now, would be evidence of blind fatuity.

PROTECTION TO THE SUGAR INDUSTRIES.

THAT the present duty on sugar is purely "for revenue" has already been said. The figures of thirty-five years' experience show that our home grown crop is not only relatively smaller than in 1852, but actually smaller in the number of hogsheads. It appears that after ample opportunity for the test, the policy of maintaining duties on the foreign product has failed of the purpose which Protection has in view: the creation of a sufficient home supply.

But in adopting any proposal to repeat the sugar duties, the country's interest in the sugar which it already produces for itself, and in that which it may produce, is to be carefully regarded. So far as we have observed, no Protectionist who discusses the subject fails to remember this. Senator Sherman, in his statement, a few weeks ago, of the revenue measures which he would adopt, expressly marked the necessity, in connection with the repeal of the sugar duty, of favoring the home crop with a bounty. He had in view, of course, the several possibilities that now appear to us in addition to the Louisiana crop,—the promise of a successful culture of the tropical cane in Florida; the New Jersey and Kansas experiments with sorghum; and the remote likelihood of securing success in beet culture. All these, unless we except the last, are important interests, deserving the generous support of our economic system. If the rich lands of Southern Florida can produce the great crops of tropical cane sugar which Mr. Disston declares entirely possible, and if the easily-grown and hardy sorghum can be manipulated so economically as to make its growth a commercial as well as a scientific success, the country will have achieved a result of gigantic proportions. Our import of sugar, of all kinds, has amounted in ten years (1877-86) to an average value of eighty-five millions of dollars a year.

For the present, no doubt, a bounty to the home interest will entirely serve. And it should be provided, perhaps, by maintaining a small duty on the imported article. This will serve every purpose of Protection, without drawing into the Treasury, as now, an unneeded revenue, and without taking for the bounty payments money derived from other sources than the article under consideration.

But, in addition to these details of this most important subject, is the vitally important one of securing, in return for our concession of an open, or nearly open, market to foreign sugars, a corresponding advantage from countries that desire to avail themselves of the offer which we make. It will be a most short-sighted policy if we neglect this. When we offer to the sugar countries the removal of our duty on their crops, we are entitled to a concession in return. We shall benefit them enormously: they must give some benefit to us. It will be our right to say that any sugar-

growing country which desires to have her product enter our ports free, (or at our lowest rate of duty), must afford to us advantages of commercial intercourse. We should require, of course, that no export duty be laid by the selling country; and we should add (1) that we give our most favorable entry only to sugar coming either in American bottoms, or in those of the country producing the sugar; (2) that we give it only to countries which grant to our ships in their ports the same relief from light-house "dues," etc., etc., which we grant to their ships; (3) that we grant it to no country which should make less favorable terms for the entry of our goods (of all kinds) than are made by it to the goods of other countries. These provisions would, in all probability, work an immense advantage to our carrying trade, and, as our home product of sugar increases, and it becomes desirable to raise the duty on the foreign grown, none of them would interfere with this change. We should still give the best entry to our ports, whatever that might be, to sugar of the country which made us the concessions named.

The repeal of the sugar duty is now a proposition within the scope of practical legislation. It must be considered with the utmost care, and with no omission of any needed safeguard. That there should be an export duty put upon us, if we remove the import duty, would of course be absurd, and there could be no danger of it, if we should take but the most reasonable precaution in our legislation. The provisions in regard to our commerce go a step farther, and are equally germane, while they are also vastly important.

AN OPEN FIRE.

THEY built no houses in happy colonial days, in which the chimney was an inconspicuous feature, hidden in the end wall, and very likely to prove a death-trap, through the carelessness or cupidity of the contractor. On the contrary, there was erected an enormous chimney, and a cozy house was built surrounding it. "Blow wind! Come, wrack!" it mattered not; the chimney stood up for the house, and never allowed even a hurricane to harry it.

Besides the fire-places—of which more anon—these chimneys had other features of merit. The sustaining arch in the cellar, in one case at least, had yearly stored therein the choice barrels of cider, that were not intended for vinegar—there was no chance for change save for the better as a beverage. And the weather-stained bricks above the roof: they too are worthy of consideration. An uncouth, box-shaped mass, it is true, but beautiful of a keen winter day, when, after a long tramp, one marks the curling smoke. However grotesquely it shapes itself in the upper air; whether it runs to hieroglyph or rune, it matters not. For him it has but one meaning, comfort.

A vacant hearth is as repellant as a coffin. It is not strange that in summer, they are screened by fire-boards, and these again by high-backed chairs. Stately chairs that overtopped the surbase, and torturing to humanity to-day, were shunned, I doubt not, in the good old times. At least I have never had a friend to remain long in one of my great-grandmother's chairs. Occasionally a victim drops into one, but only to squirm; then he arises and stares at the innocent-looking structure. I have never heard any remarks, but the countenance, at such times, speaks volumes. Yet who could throw away his great-grandmother's parlor chairs?

But it is winter now, and the hearth is not vacant. About it, in proper place, are the andirons, shovel, tongs, bellows, face-screens, and, never to be ignored, quaint silhouettes above the tall wooden mantel with its narrow shelf. Add to these a generous supply of hickory blazing on the hearth, and he who could not be happy when a winter storm rages deserves discomfort to his dying day.

The dignified pillars of the bright brass andirons stand tonight like sentinels between me and the fire, and I would that they were able to cope with those who will raid upon the heaped-up hickory in spite of every form of protest.

Neither shovel nor tongs are essential to the maintenance of a wood fire, although the latter are convenient; but I have been tempted to spoil the hearth's appearance and remove them, because of the meddlesome disposition of every adult visitor. I have yet to see the man who was content to let an open fire remain as he finds it. It seems to matter not how cold he may be, he must rearrange the sticks before spreading his hands to receive the wholesome heat of hickory coals.

I am told that Ben South, keeper of the cross-roads tavern, a century ago, determined that his bar-room fire should remain unmolested for at least one day, and to effect this he removed every bit of fire-side furniture. He was unsuccessful. Every customer asked for the tongs before asking for his toddy, and nine in ten kicked the logs—the tenth burnt his fingers, shaking the andirons, and threatened to withdraw his custom. "Such a fire as that was too unsociable for him," was his remark. Ben gave up, and so do I. I know what is coming when my city friends drop in. The smile, the rubbing of the hands, and the suggestive ah! all forewarn me of an attack upon my fire. If an angel from heaven were to place the hickory in order and every flickering flame was the perfection of grace, it would avail nothing. There would be instant interference from the first mortal who happened in. Of course, I wish each one of my friends to consider himself the exception that proves the rule; at the same time, I would have all my readers, who know me not, understand that there are no exceptions.

The pretty, fan-like screens for the face, that I have mentioned, have ever interested me more than all else about the hearth. It requires some effort to realize that your great-grandmother was once a girl, but it is true, and what might not these neatly decorated bits of board, which shielded her pretty but not painted face—what might they not tell us, could they but speak. How steadily have bright eyes gazed upon them that dared not look up; how stealthily have they glanced aside, meeting other eyes, yet shielded from all the company. Can it be possible that in a quiet way, there was a mild form of flirtation even among the early Quakers? These screens hint at it; and we do know that they were always widely awake to all the world's real worth; witty, fond of literature, nor accounted it vanity to see themselves in print. It is eminently appropriate to take up the volumes of the *Evening Fireside*, published eighty years ago, and read the pithy prose and dainty verses of many a young Friend. Indeed, at least one of the contributors to this earliest of literary weeklies has sat before my fire, and held these screens, listening, as I do now, to the moaning of the wind in the chimney, singing then as now, as her poetry shows, a melancholy song of long ago. But how different her "long ago" from mine! I think of the time when this country was young, as long ago; and my great-grandmother then was recalling the stories she had heard of her parents' home in England; stories, it is hard to understand why, that have not been handed down.

It needs the fire's red glare and sickly candle-light to animate the inky silhouettes upon the wall. They are best stared at, in such a light, and when a storm rages. The coziness of an open fire leads to contemplation, and a step further, to retrospection. Fancy plays tricks with us on a wild night; when the north wind leaps from the tall pines and screams like a demon as it swoops down the chimney, scattering the ash-hidden sparks that gather again in force and rush headlong after the howling fiend, as it seeks the outer world again. We are ready for wild fancies then, and when the wind returns, as if repenting of its rashness, mild of mood and sighing dolefully, I hear my ancestors uniting in a prayer to reassemble before these andirons once again. Then the silhouettes take livelier shape, and one after another slowly float before me. What were their whims, or were they always as sober as their portraits? They are puzzles now; for the women have head-gear no Quaker ever wore; and the men strange overhanging locks of hair that would have endangered their status in meeting had they ever worn them.

But we must not forget the fuel, nor its history. I would not give a fig for straight-grained wood that promptly turns to ashes without protest. Give me, rather, knotty and gnarly sticks that boldly fight for their crookedness, and, at last, become coals that fiercely glare at you, in impotent rage. Better than all, is some old stump that has lain long upon the ground and perhaps been tunnelled by mice and beetles, and long the fortress of the grim, gray spiders of the woods. These stumps do not find their way to the wood-pile, and are too scattered to be gathered by cart-loads. Hence the necessity of systematic chunk-hunting—a most delightful sport.

Many a curious adventure have I had, and too, some narrow escapes. Once from the brow of a steep slope, I attempted to dislodge a cedar-stump. Long I tugged at it and made slow but, as I thought, sure progress. Suddenly it gave way, and with a mixed but otherwise indescribable sensation, I rolled with it to the ditch below. The stump won the race, and I collected my senses while sitting upon it. Bruised as I was, I shouldered it, and that night nursed myself by the genial warmth it gave, as the substantial back-log of my open fire. Next to the gathering of a night's supply of wood, when in camp, for solid satisfaction, is chunk-hunting: and I have no patience with a heartless critic at my elbow, who suggests that the pastime illustrates a peculiar phase of human nature. "If," she says, "the chunk-hunter is

asked to carry twenty pounds to a neighbor's house, he is helpless, at once; but forty pounds have been carried twice as far, and no hint of fatigue escaped the hunter, as he marched in triumph to the fire-place." It is prudent not to reply.

It was on the eve of a storm when I gathered the chunk now upon the andirons; a half of a persimmon stump. It is garnished with windfalls from the oaks and beeches; and all goes well. This bit of a persimmon tree has a history, too; as I dragged it from the mat of leaves and sand that had been accumulating for several years, I unearthed a colony of mole-crickets. Perhaps the association was accidental, but there was certainly a hundred of them, huddled in a little space. They did not stridulate when disturbed, and scarcely squirmed, but all appeared to be alive. These are the creatures, I believe, that fill the air, at night, with an unceasing dissyllabic thrill, from early in August until after frost. I find them credited with singing in spring and early summer; a statement that does not hold good of the species found to-day. The last song of this cricket, heard this year, was October 18, and my companion caught it in the act. There was not the same vim in its stridulation that marks a hot night in June, but it was unmistakably the same sound; and with it was heard a full chorus of croaking green frogs, for these, unlike their spotted cousins, croak even during the winter months.

It was on the eve of a storm when I gathered the wood: it was raining when I settled by my fire. The crickets that I had thoughtlessly left exposed, perhaps to die, disturbed my thoughts. I hoped their sluggish senses might so far revive that they could burrow out of harm's way. Then for a time, a burrowing cricket myself, I wandered among the roots of the hillside trees: wandered until long past midnight, a victim of my own cruelty; and then, in very truth, found myself, a chilled mortal, with cold ashes, face to face.

CHARLES C. ABBOTT.

Near Trenton, N. J.

SIAM.¹

AMERICANS know more of the "freaks" of Siam—the Siamese Twins and the hairy Krao, advertised as "The Missing Link"—than of the land from which they came. It lies, like the meat in a sandwich, between Burmah and Anam, and the three countries have been geographically lumped under the name Indo-China or farther India. But Burmah has now fallen into the British lion's maw, while France, having gained a foothold both in Tonquin and in Cochin China, has been trying to appropriate Anam. Thus Siam is revealed somewhat more distinctly. Compared with the wide-spread empires of Asia, the kingdom is small, yet, even excluding the dependent Laos provinces to the north, it is four times the size of our Empire State. Its utmost width is 450 miles, but the peninsula, tapering like Mexico, offers an isthmus 50 miles wide, as a temptation to commercial enterprise in these days of inter-oceanic canals. With the kingdom our government has maintained treaty relations for thirty years, and American missionaries, laboring in Bangkok for more than twenty-five years previously, had secured the favor of king and people. Roman Catholic missionaries of Portuguese and French nationality, had been at work long before, but in 1780 the Jesuits were banished by royal decree. In 1830, their aggressive work was resumed and they have now a vicar apostolic, a bishop, and a score of foreign missionaries. They have thousands of adherents, chiefly among the Chinese and other foreigners, the converts from the native Siamese being very few. The American missionaries are from the Presbyterian church, on which the work of Christianizing that people has devolved. Miss Cort who has been thus occupied since 1874 gives a fair picture of the country, the people, and the missions. Her plain, straightforward narrative makes no pretension to literary effect. Her occasional moralizings testify her devotion to her life-work.

Siam is the land of Buddhism and cremation. Those in Western lands who have been affected with the craze for this Oriental belief and practice should examine their results where they have been domiciled for centuries. The king of Siam at his coronation takes a vow to support and uphold the Buddhist religion. Every officer of the government must at some period have been a priest, that is a begging friar. As such he renounces all his former honors and positions, yet sometimes he is permitted to resume them as did the present king, Chulalongkorn, after a term of three weeks. His father, Maha Mongkut, spent twenty-five years in a Buddhist monastery, but after coming to the throne, gathered a harem in which were thirty-five royal mothers, who bore him eighty-four children. The Buddhist priest is distinguished by his dress, which consists of seven yellow cloths, made of little pieces sewed in imitation of the rags and patches of the primitive teachers of his religion. These cloths can be worn by none but priests, and are re-

moved from the body before death, lest they be defiled. The priest must wear sandals, but no hat; he may carry an umbrella and a long-handled fan. Every morning he goes forth with an iron or brass basin to receive gifts of food; gold or silver he must not touch. But the most fragrant flowers, the ripest fruits, the richest and best of all food and drink are given to him in abundance; and the boys who are left with priests to be trained for the holy life are permitted to take what would contaminate the hands of the devotee. Every imaginable event in life calls for some religious observance and demands more or less outlay by the people. The priest will receive nothing from a woman's hand, but if she throw an article on the ground, he will pick it up without compunction.

The most beautiful places in Siam are the "wats" or walled enclosures, within which stand the priests' dwellings, the pagodas, and the time-mellowed white temples with their bell towers. In these cool and shady parks the senses are gratified with tropical flowers, blossoming shrubs, orange groves, lily ponds, and rain-water tanks. The gates stand open day and night, and the sacred enclosure is a refuge for all sorts and conditions of men, yes, and of animals, for it being a sin in the Buddhist code to take the life of any living creature, worn-out cattle and surplus pups and kittens are consigned to the "wat," where they eke out their existence on the scraps of the priests' meals. The animals are not regularly tended, however, and the swine belonging to the "wat," being left to root or die, revert to their wild state and display formidable tusks. Priests' houses are generally like the ordinary native houses, almost bare of furniture, dusty and dirty, and infested with vermin. The temples have high steep roofs, covered with red and yellow tiles, often supported by pillars, and so arranged as to have the effect of double or triple roofs. Walls, windows, and doors slope inwards towards the top. The doors are often beautiful, inlaid with ivory and pearl, and stuccoed with figures of Buddha and his angels and lotus lilies. Although it is a common maxim of the priests "Make no idol of any kind," the land is full of images of Buddha and his predecessors and even of one who is hereafter to ascend to his place. Buddhists worship no deity; Buddhism is a round of observances, intended to "make merit" and secure the attainment of a new life, or rather unconscious existence. The "wat" is dedicated to the priesthood, and at every new and full moon the priests must assemble in the "bote," or most sacred place and listen to the reading of the two hundred and twenty-seven statutes of Buddha.

Cremation is the customary method of disposing of the dead in Siam. In ordinary cases, the body, with or without a coffin, is carried to a porch in the temple ground, where priests chant and mourn around it, and take for themselves white cloths which lie folded on its chest. Plates, cups, and other articles are also distributed. The body is carried thrice around the pyre that the ghost may be confused and not return the way it came. The corpse is bathed with cold water and sprinkled with a yellow powder, and over it the milk from a cocoanut is poured. Friends send parting gifts, and when the fire is lighted come forward with torches, tapers, incense-sticks, and fire-crackers. The clothes of the deceased are burned with the corpse, but sometimes they are merely waved through the flames to be purified. Three days after the cremation the bones are gathered up and placed in an urn. Those who die from cholera or accident must be buried before being cremated, yet the burial is often a sham. The body of a wealthy person is kept for months before cremation, fireworks and theatrical performances being given in the meantime. The most notable cremation occurred in March, 1881. King Chulalongkorn in 1880 had intended to visit the United States, but while making preparations his queen and her child were accidentally drowned in the Chow Payah, on which river the capital Bangkok is situated. Their bodies were embalmed and placed in urns, the inner one of copper and the outer one of gold. These urns were exposed on a platform, surrounded with insignia of royalty, and guarded with relays of Buddhist priests and wailing women. Morning, noon, and night the funeral dirge was performed for ten months, while all the kingdom was astir with preparation for the grand burning, and foreign merchants brought thousands of dollars' worth of goods from Europe and America. A grand temporary building called Pramane was erected with costly decorations and filled with a wonderful exhibition of native workmanship and art. Those who remember Siam's display at the Centennial Exhibition in Philadelphia will admit that this would be well worthy of study. From the twelve large and twelve small towers of Pramane fireworks were displayed nightly, in its courts shows of all kinds delighted the assembled crowds, and refreshments were supplied to the natives free. The whole week before the cremation was occupied with stage-plays, with processions in which priests outnumbered all other classes, with banquets and liberal distributions of presents. The chanting and preaching of the priests in the ancient Pali language were

¹SIAM: OR THE HEART OF FARTHER INDIA. By Mary L. Cort. Pp. x. and 399. With Maps. New York: Anson D. F. Randolph & Co. 1887.

still continued around the bier. At last the costly articles were removed from the altar; the golden urns were replaced with others of sandal-wood; spices and fragrant powders were strewn about. The time had come "to offer up the sacred flame." A fuse was laid from the altar to where the King sat, and at 6 p. m. he ignited it with holy fire. The princes and nobles added tapers and sandal-wood to the flames, but care was taken that these should not destroy the building. In the evening the sports were resumed and for three days more the ceremonies, plays, preaching, chanting, and fire-works continued. Then the relics and precious things were removed to the palace and some time later the Pramanie building was taken down. The funeral of this barbaric queen rivalled in splendor Queen Victoria's Jubilee, and was apparently the occasion of as much rejoicing among her subjects. Its cost was estimated at half a million dollars.

J. P. L.

WEEKLY NOTES.

BESIDES what has been said during the past fortnight of the family from which Sadi-Carnot is sprung, and especially of his distinguished grandfather, there is a fact stowed away in a paper read before the French Academy as far back as 1837, which has obtained a special interest in the light of recent events. In the first volume of the collected works of Francois Arago there is a very interesting essay on the elder Carnot, and in it we are told that he was one of the most determined opponents of the order of Legion of Honor. It was wrong in principle, he thought, since it conferred a title of honor without any examination to see if the recipient were worthy; it was dangerous, in that it reposed the right of nominating to this honor in the hands of a single man, and its sole result, he thought, would be the establishment of a special class of sycophants. Carnot was overruled, it is true, but the dangers which he anticipated have been realized, in a curious way, in the scandals of the "decoration" traffic which led to the recent French crisis, and which, more curiously still, brought in his grandson as President of the French Republic.

THE most important excavations ever made on the soil of southern Babylonia were conducted by M. E. de Sarzec, French Consul at Bosrah, during the years 1877-1882. A rough estimate of the magnitude of his results can be obtained from the fact that he shipped forty tons of antiquities to Paris. Dr. Ira M. Price, now Associate Professor of Hebrew and Cognate languages in the Baptist Seminary, at Morgan Park, Ill., (where he succeeded Prof. W. R. Harper), made some of these inscriptions his study for his Doctor's dissertation at the University of Leipzig. Dr. Price has published only the text of the so-called Gudea inscription, with a transliteration and glossary, but no translation, but he hopes to publish a fuller work in the *Assyriologische Bibliothek*, edited by Profs. Delitzsch and Haupt. Assyrian scholars everywhere will await this work with much eagerness. It is evident from what is now known of these inscriptions that they are of paramount importance for the early history of Babylonia, as well as for the culture history of entire Western Asia.

IN a recent letter to the London *Times*, Prof. Max Müller contends against the view set forth by Professor Sayce in his address to the Anthropological Section of the British Association for the Advancement of Science that the original home of the Aryans was not in Asia. Prof. Sayce, following Dr. Schrader of Jena, and other German scholars, transfers the original home of the Aryan stock to Scandinavia or Lithuania. Canon Isaac Taylor has supported Prof. Sayce's view in a paper read before the Anthropological Institute.

THE Art Club is reported as increasing in membership, and that at the present rate of progress the list will soon be full. The alterations of the club house on South Broad street are nearly finished, and the rooms will be furnished as soon as the carpenters and painters leave them. The picture gallery is yet to be built some delay having occurred because of a change of plans, the present intention being to make the gallery a more important feature than was originally intended.

The club will be opened on the 27th inst., and the occasion will be marked by a reception, giving those interested a foretaste of what social entertainment the members will be offered hereafter. There will probably be a loan exhibit of pictures for the evening, as it can hardly be expected the Club will have any large collection of its own to begin with.

THE Contemporary Club is another of the social and culture organizations that show growth. At the recent annual meeting the limit of membership has raised from 100 to 125. On the 20th inst., the Club is to have an address by Mr. Irving on "English Actors."

TWO NEW FRENCH BOOKS.

[FROM OUR PARIS CORRESPONDENT.]

PARIS, November, 1887.

THE two books of the month in Paris are the first volume of M. Renan's "*Historie Du Peuple D'Israel*" (1 vol. Calmann Lévy), and M. Edmond De Goncourt's second volume of the "*Journal Des Goncourt*" (1 vol. Charpentier). M. Renan's book is the first of three volumes which he hopes to publish in the coming two years, after which, if God grants him life, he will write the history of the Asmoreans which will connect directly with his Life of Jesus, and his various books on the history of the first one hundred and fifty years of Christianity. Thus the cycle of history which he desires to review will be complete. The present volume contains the history of the Beni-Israel during their nomad and pre-historic days, down to the establishment of the royalty and the reign of David. It is a rationalist and critical account of the development of the Israelite nation and of their monotheistic conception of the Deity, composed with the light of all the special erudition of Dutch and German Hebraists, and with regard for all the most recent researches of modern Assyriologists and Egyptologists. And yet, in spite of its profound erudition, not a page of M. Renan's volume is dry or unintelligible to the simple layman; while in the midst of the most serious discussion he throws a sudden living interest into the matter by some contemporary allusion. Thus, for instance, he compares the Hebrew prophets to "fiery political writers of the stamp which we should now call Socialist and Anarchist." They are fanatical seekers after social justice and they proclaim most emphatically that if the world is not just or susceptible of becoming just, it were better for it to be destroyed: "a very erroneous manner of looking at things," says M. Renan, "but nevertheless very fruitful; for like all doctrines of despair, like Russian nihilism at the present day, for example, it produces heroism and a grand awakening of human forces. The founders of Christianity, direct continuers of the prophets, were themselves out in an incessant appeal for the end of the world, and strange to say they succeeded in transforming the world." M. Renan considers that for a philosophic mind there are in the past of humanity only three histories of first-class interest, that of Greece, of Israel, and of Rome, which histories combined together constitute the history of civilization, civilization being the result of the alternate collaboration of Greece, Judæa and Rome. To Greece M. Renan attributes the highest rôle, inasmuch as to Greece we are indebted for our science, art, literature, philosophy, morality, politics, strategy, diplomacy, maritime and international law. The framework of human culture created by Greece is susceptible of being indefinitely enlarged; but it is complete in its parts. Progress will eternally consist in developing what Greece conceived. But in her intellectual and moral activity Greece had one great gap: she despised the humble, and felt no need of a just God. Her philosophers, while dreaming about the immortality of the soul, were tolerant of the iniquities of the world. "Her religions were charming municipal toys; the idea of a universal religion never came to her. This defect of the Hellenic mind was made up for by the ardent genius of the Israelites, which produced Christianity. "With the churches," says M. Renan, "which are merely synagogues opened to the uncircumcised there is born an idea of popular association which contrasts absolutely with the democracy of the Greek towns. Christianity, in a word, becomes in history an element as capital as the liberal rationalism of the Greeks, though in certain respects less sure of eternity. The tendency which induces the nineteenth century to secularize everything and to render civil a number of things which were formerly religious, is a reaction against Christianity; but supposing that this movement is carried out to the extreme, Christianity will still leave an indelible trace. Liberalism will no longer be alone to govern the world. England and America will long retain traces of Biblical influence, and in France, the Socialists, unconscious pupils of the prophets, will always force rational politics to reckon with them." As for the rôle of Rome it was that of preparing the way for the great creations of Greece and Judæa. There was needed the creation of a grand humanitarian force capable of overthrowing the obstacles which local patriotism opposed to the idealist propaganda of Greece and Judæa. Rome, by prodigies of civic virtue, created force in the world, and this force in reality served to propagate the work of the Greeks and of the Jews, that is to say civilization. Amidst the profusion of broad, suggestive, and luminous ideas which abound in M. Renan's fascinating volume, it is no easy matter to choose and at the same time to remember that space is limited. But after all, what we have already said will suffice to excite the curiosity and waken the interest of all who care to know M. Renan's opinions on the history of our religion and of our moral code. Since M. Renan began to write on religious history forty years ago great changes have been accomplished. There is no longer any question about the very basis of religion; people

now recognize that there is room in the infinite for each man to build up his own romance. Nowadays, in all civilized countries, almost without exception, no man is forced to act contrary to his conscience, each one being free to contract marriage, to educate his children, and to arrange his funeral as he thinks proper. This according to M. Renan, is an immense result. The moment that it is granted that all churches, without being of equal value, are an affair of tradition and not of absolute truth, there is no reason for being at variance on a mere material fact. The interminable polemics to which the struggles of Catholicism, Protestantism and Judaism have given rise have lost all utility outside of the historical movement which they have caused. But this historical interest remains intact. "Men will concern themselves with religions long after having ceased to believe in them. The ruin of theology does not involve the ruin of the history of theology, any more than the little interest now attached to the study of metaphysics deprives the history of ancient philosophy of its interest. To see the past as it really was, is the first enjoyment of man, and the noblest of his curiosities." It is always good to know the truth. But taking the study of religions as a whole, is there none but a sceptical or a negative result to be obtained from the study of these long errors? asks M. Renan. Is it of such great consequence to know what stages poor humanity has traversed in order to reach the spot whence it sees that the summits of Olympus and Sinai are deserts, that heaven is empty and the earth quite small, that thunder is a phenomenon of more apparent than real amplitude? No; the reasoning of Kant is as true now as ever it was; moral affirmation creates its object. Religions like philosophies are all vain; but religion itself is not any more vain than philosophy itself. Without the hope of any recompense man sacrifices his life for duty. Victim of the injustice of his fellows, he lifts his eyes towards heaven. A generous cause in which he has no interest often makes his heart beat. The *elohim* do not dwell amidst the eternal snows; they are not met in mountain passes as they were in the days of Moses; they live in the heart of man; you will never drive them from there. Justice, truth, and virtue are willed by a superior force. "The progress of reason has been fatal only to false gods. The true God of the universe, the only God, the God that one adores by doing a good action, or by giving good advice to men, or by seeking after truth, is established for eternity. It is the certainty of having served, after my manner, and in spite of shortcomings of all sorts, this excellent cause, which inspires me with absolute confidence in divine goodness."

How subtle and difficult to seize is M. Renan's thought and M. Renan's convictions! Here we have a sort of credo, an expression of confidence, if not of hope. Well, in the last paragraph of the volume, which ends a graphic portrait of King David represented as being a mere fascinating *condottier* and an unscrupulous brigand, and not by any means the author of the psalms, M. Renan indulges in bitter irony at the expense of poor humanity which has been for ages believing in final justice "on the testimony of David who never conceived such an idea, and on the testimony of the Sibyll who never even existed. *Teste David cum Sibylla! O divine Comedy!*"

This second volume of the "*Journal des Goncourt*" comprises the diary and notes of the two celebrated brothers during the years 1862-65, and in the form of daily entries, stenographed conversations, and alert pen portraits of eminent men, it presents a most interesting and absolutely unique tableau of the literary life of Paris during the Empire. Among the most curious pages of the volume are those in which are noted the conversations at the "*Diner Magny*" that famous Friday dinner where the guests used to be Gavarni, Sainte-Beuve, Ernest Renan, Berthelot, Théophile Gautier, Nefftzer, Taine, Scherer, Jules and Edmond de Goncourt, Paul de Saint-Victor, Flaubert, etc. The two figures with whom we become most intimately acquainted in reading this journal are Sainte-Beuve and Théophile Gautier, who both talk as men amongst men, with an absolute freedom of language which obliges me to say that the "*Journal des Goncourt*" is not a book for boys and girls, but for men and women whose experience must have been considerable. Of the two Sainte-Beuve comes out of the trial lessened in our esteem, though after all at the present day Sainte-Beuve's reputation as a critic scarcely holds ground except in foreign countries; he enjoyed all his glory in his life time, and now, seen from a distance, he appears to us in his writings much the same as the Goncourts depict him in his conversation: namely a man of small thoughts, small views, small processes, and small talk. "When I hear Sainte-Beuve, with his little phrases dealing with a dead celebrity," says M. de Goncourt, "I seem to see an army of ants invading a corpse; he will clean out a glory in ten minutes and leave of the illustrious gentleman nothing but a cleanly picked skeleton." Remark that I do not accuse M. de Goncourt of diminishing Sainte-Beuve: he does not diminish him by presenting him faithfully as he was. Nor does he diminish Gautier or Michelet by the intimate and familiar portraits which

he paints a dozen different times in the course of the present volume. M. de Goncourt describes Michelet as having the physical appearance of a "*petit rentier rageur*," but he none the less presents him as a high intelligence. "*Le Journal des Goncourt*" is not only a precious biographical, moral, and sociological document; it has also the charm of the most gossipy and amusing memoir, and the literary beauty which characterizes all the productions of those most strongly personal stylists, MM. Edmond and Jules de Goncourt.

THEODORE CHILD.

ART.

THE ACADEMY EXHIBITION OF HISTORICAL PORTRAITS.

THE exhibition of portraits at the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, although obviously lacking in several important respects the qualities which prove most attractive to the general public, is to all who really care either for American history or American art interesting and instructive in the highest degree; and the officers of the Academy are entitled to a great deal of credit for the efforts they have made to render it reasonably complete on the historic side.

That these efforts have been only partially successful is true enough; but this is obviously not through any fault of the promoters of this exhibition, any more than it is that a great many of the pictures that have been brought together are perfectly uninteresting either as works of art or on account of their subjects. For the duty of selecting works available for exhibition purposes from the mass of those offered—always a delicate one—becomes virtually a dead letter in the case of a loan exhibition like this.

It is, perhaps, to be regretted that either the historical purpose of the exhibition was not a little more clearly defined and all recent work excluded, or, if the work of living men was to be shown at all, that the exhibition is not more complete in this respect. And if the work of Mr. Uhle, Mr. Healy, Mr. Weber, Mr. Rothermel, and Mr. Williams is to be shown, and if this comparison of the older methods with those that obtain to-day is valuable, why should not the list be extended?

But never mind the fault-finding! Let us look at the pictures. And here let us admit frankly and at the outset, that great as the interest which they possess on purely artistic grounds undoubtedly is, that which the subjects contain is, on the whole, infinitely greater, and that is why, one would think, everybody would want to flock to see them—which, unfortunately for their reputation as students of human history as well as of lovers of Art, they do not do at all.

For the men who have, in large part, made our history face us here with a vividness unattainable except by means of such exhibitions as this, where it is possible to test the truthfulness of the portrayal by comparisons which would be impossible anywhere else. Here are nine portraits of Washington, for example, by four different painters; five of Franklin by four artists; and so on. And although all painters may tell lies, or only part of the truth, in their work, different painters tell different lies and the observer may strike something of a balance among them.

Truth is always refreshing, and there is consolation and encouragement for the commonplace plodders of to-day—who are apt to forget that it was always to-day when anything happened—in the revelations of real character which these old portraits make. Look at this head of Franklin, for instance, by that uncompromising realist, Charles Wilson Peale. This is not the stately minister that Greuze has pretended he saw, is it? nor the genial sage which Duplessis has painted? no; but it is the man in his habit as he lived, you may be sure of that; the same keen, hard, cold-blooded calculator, that with delightful frankness stands self-confessed in the "*Autobiography*."

And Washington, how old did he look to the same honest eyes? Very much as he looks in Houdon's statue, but not much as he looks in Stuart's "pink fancy," as another clear-headed artist, George Inness, not inaptly designated the famous "Athenæum" portrait. Stuart painted the myth that Washington became so early,—the demigod who lives in Irving's "Life." Peale has painted only the quiet gentleman who did the best he could, bravely and patiently, in the midst of many grumblers and schemers and the heaviest kind of care; not "that old wooden head" which hot-headed John Adams called him, perhaps, but just an honest, kindly gentleman with plenty of courage and a will of his own, and probably just a little dull.

When Peale grows ambitious, however, and tries to paint big pictures, he drops into fancies like other people; and his full length Washington, with Nassau Hall in the background and plenty of smoke and things in the foreground, is no more respectable as a portrait than Stuart's Faneuil Hall picture of the same subject, besides being not half so well painted.

But Stuart did not always lapse into the unreal when he made with his portraits a little exercise in composition. Witness his very admirable picture of Provost Smith, which has the place of honor in the largest of the galleries. It is a very masterly piece of work, entirely worthy of this painter's reputation, although it lacks the charm of color which characterizes the best of his portraits, and is conspicuous enough, for instance, in that of Peter Mienken which hangs close beside the larger composition.

Stuart deserves all honor, of course, and it is right enough, on general principles, to give him the head of the table, so to speak, on this occasion; but I confess that to me the most striking thing about the exhibition is the revelation it makes of the power and versatility of Thomas Sully. Ninety-four of his pictures are shown here, not all master-pieces, of course,—some of them pretty bad, if you please,—but many of them superb, the collection as a whole impressing one with a profound sense of Sully's genius for seizing the strong points of his sitter, and for adapting the treatment of his picture to the requirements of his subject.

This is a very rare quality in a painter, as everybody knows. No one will deny that the Stuart pictures,—and there are fifty-eight of them, too,—look very much alike. All are about the same color, men, women, and children, all very much the same in what, for want of a better term, we have to call "treatment." But with Sully this is not the case, at all. His method, exquisitely delicate in dealing with fair women, is vigorous and manly when he has a manly subject to paint; (in my humble opinion his portrait of General Jonathan Williams indicates the high water mark of the Exhibition); and throughout the whole range of his subjects the nicest discrimination of character and corresponding adjustment of methods are everywhere apparent.

Another painter who comes out pretty strong in this exhibition is John Neagle, and this, notwithstanding several of his works—some of them large and important,—are very ordinary indeed. There is nothing ordinary about the portrait of Dr. Dewees, nor about the vigorously painted head of Andrew Wallace.

But this is all about the painters after all, notwithstanding the fact that for the most part the first interest attaches to the subjects. This is inevitable and, indeed, if it were not for the interest we feel in studying the character of these old ghosts by themselves and for themselves, a considerable part of this collection would have to be voted dull and no mistake. But in these galleries the century that has gone is repeopled, and we are not only extremely glad to greet so much of what was honorable and virtuous in it, but we experience a grim kind of satisfaction at finding that priggishness and humbug are not by any means peculiar to the age in which our own lot is cast.

But the exhibition carries its lesson, too, for the student of art,—the lesson of humility. We hear so much about the progress we have made in these last few years, that we are in constant danger of forgetting how much we owe to those who have been here before us and have wrought faithfully and well.

L. W. M.

The Artists' Fund Society of New York, has held an annual exhibition for many years which has been one of the interesting events of the season in the world of art. The exhibition has been closed by a sale at public auction, the proceeds of which paid the contributors' annual dues to the Artists' Fund. This year the Association has decided to abandon these exhibitions, at least for the present. The New York law preventing picture auctions in the evening is found to tell so heavily against the presence of picture buyers at public sales that only poor attendance and poor prices can be expected. The artist members of the Association will therefore pay their dues in cash and find other means of selling their pictures.

Another exhibition of etchings is announced in Boston, this time to be exclusively confined to the works of Seymour Haden. It is to be a loan collection, and the intention is to make it as full as possible. The only complete collection of Haden's etchings in existence, so far as known, is that made by the late James L. Claghorn, of this city. Mr. Haden when here went through the portfolios very thoroughly, comparing the prints with his record, and his statement was that every state of every plate he had account of was found there in good condition; the collection being more perfect than his own. These Haden's are now in Baltimore being included in the sale of the Claghorn collection to Mr. Garrett.

On Tuesday, the 6th inst., the New York Society for the Promotion of Art opened its second annual exhibition in the gallery of the Eden Musée. Only American works of art will be shown, and a high standard of merit has been established. The undertaking is in charge of Messrs. Thomas B. Clark, Henry P. Chapman, and Richard H. Halstead, whose well known names are a sufficient guarantee that it will be ably and judiciously managed.

Christmas trade, the leading activity of the time in commercial circles, is extending to artistic circles also this year, the demand for presentation pictures being greater than ever before. This demand is not felt to any great extent in the studios of the leading artists, but gives welcome employment to the less ambitious brothers and sisters of the craft. Small pictures, panels, plaques, and the like, ranging in price from five to fifty dollars, find readiest sale. Flower pieces, a bunch of pansies, or a bouquet of roses, prove attractive; and so, also, do single figures or groups telling stories, love stories especially. They need to be decorative in treatment, interesting, strong in color, and either dark and rich, or light and brilliant in tone. These little paintings make appropriate and acceptable presents, within the reach of the many, and pleasing to all. They are not very important in works of art, but they may be very good of their kind, and very agreeable to look at, all the same.

Mr. Thomas B. Craig has an important picture in Earles' window, this week. One of the first fruits of his summer and autumn studies. It is a landscape with cattle, and an unusually attractive subject, very picturesque and full of interest. It is painted in a high key with strong illumination, and makes a bright, not to say brilliant, work. The suffusion of light reveals details more explicitly than is common in so large a picture and the artist, has made searching studies of minutiae generally left to broad suggestions.

GRIEF-SONG.

NEW grief, new tears;
Brief the reign of sorrow;
Clouds that gather with the night
Scatter on the morrow.

Old grief, old tears;
Come and gone together;
Not a fleck upon the sky
Telling whence or whither.

Old grief, new tears—
Deep to deep is calling:
Life is but a passing cloud
Whence the rain is falling.

JOHN B. TABB.

REVIEWS.

VIRGINIBUS PUERISQUE, and other Papers. By Robert Louis Stevenson. Second Edition. Pp. 278. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons.

MEMORIES AND PORTRAITS. By Robert Louis Stevenson. Pp. 299. Same Publishers.

WITH Mr. Stevenson as a poet, a traveler, and a novelist, the lover of books with a good flavor is well acquainted. But Mr. Stevenson will be met as an essayist by most readers for the first time in these two volumes. Those who have access to the periodical literature of Great Britain will have enjoyed some part of their contents already; but a good deal of them will be new to everyone. And great as have been Mr. Stevenson's successes in other fields of literary labor, one cannot but feel that it is in the essay that he is most at home. Few of all the children of Montaigne have more of the spirit of the master. Perhaps nobody but Charles Lamb quite surpasses him in English literature. He has the lightness of touch, the keen and inoffensive interest in himself and his own opinions, the readiness to treat of serious themes, but not too seriously, the detachment from his own opinions, the lambent irony of the Frenchman, without his reckless desultoriness. Lamb he resembles in that he excites in us a far deeper interest in his own personality than Montaigne ever does. We learn to like him as one likes a brilliant talker, whose intellectual gifts and fine felicity of phrase are but the complement of a fine and noble character. But after all comparisons there is left an element which is not to be found anywhere but here, which is Stevensonian.

The first of these volumes is the less homogeneous of the two. The first four papers, which give name to the book, are discussions of marriage, love, and friendship in a light, epigrammatic and incisive style. Mr. Stevenson doubts the frequency in literature of descriptions of the tender passion based on experience. He is led by "The Merry Wives of Windsor" to doubt if Shakespeare ever fell in love, and is saved from the same conclusion as regards Scott by some passages in "Rob Roy." In Heine's best songs, in Tennyson's "Maud," in Victor Hugo's "Marius," and in some of the characters in George Sand's and George Meredith's novels he recognizes the genuine article. But he does not seem to be acquainted with much of the best love poetry of modern literature,—Spencer's Amoretti, Coven-

try Patmore and Ruckert's "Liebesfrühling." The other essays, with the exception of one in which he punctures many of the pretensions put forward for old age as a time of special wisdom, deal with less serious subjects. They range from "The English Admirals" down to "A Plea for Gas Lamps." That on "Child's Play" might be taken as a prose introduction to our author's "Child's Garden of Verses."

The second volume of the two is mainly autobiography. The wish of his many readers to know something more intimately of a writer whose personality is so closely bound up with his literary work is gratified here. First in the series we should have put the sketch of Thomas Stevenson, the devout and able light-house engineer, to whom his son stands in some contrast. But Mr. Stevenson puts first his indictment as a Scotchman of the narrow and exclusive attitude toward all the inhabitants even of his own island, except such as are of the conventional English type. He finds a profound difference between Scotchmen and Englishmen, which he is inclined to trace to the difference of religious and educational culture,—but which probably rests on the deeper difference of race. The Englishman is a Low Dutchman with an infusion of Norman French. The Scotchman blends Celt and Scandinavian probably in about equal measure. Hence the difference of religious tendency, which made the one country Anglican and the other Calvinistic. The best Calvinists always have been Celts; the Highlanders are to-day the pillars of orthodoxy in both the Established and the Free Kirks. In the seventeenth century it was the Whigs of the West Country, the old British Kingdom of Strathclyde, who stood out for the Covenant, while the Lothian shires were disposed to compromise. And of every three Welshmen at least two belong to one of three Calvinistic churches of the Principality.

From the general topic our essayist passes to sketches of his minister grandfather, the despotic gardener of his childhood's home, the boisterous but notable shepherd whose friendship he acquired, his first experiences among books, his college days in Auld Reikie, his graveyard fits of the blues, his neglect of ordinary work and laborious efforts to acquire the art of writing well, his enlistment with other students on a short-lived magazine, and sketches of the finest conversationists, and the notable dogs he has known. These, with the sketch of his father, fill up more than two-thirds of the volume. The rest is devoted to a discussion of his own *metier*, the art of novel-writing. All these papers have the charms which seems to be blended with the contents of his ink-bottle. But that on dogs gives us especial pleasure. Mr. Stevenson, like his friend John Brown, and unlike his other friend Andrew Lang, is an admirer of dogs, but by no means an unqualified admirer. He recognizes the fact that long association with mankind has produced an assimilation of canine character to the human, but that the quadruped naturally has come to resemble the surface of our humanity rather than the deeper and greater qualities. His egotism, conventionality and snobbishness are prominent among his derived qualities. If he could talk, he would talk of nothing but himself.

From dogs we turn to romances and find admirable papers on the elder Dumas's "Vicente de Bragelonne," and on the recent theorists as to the proper place and structure of the novel—Mr. Besant, Mr. James, and Mr. Howells. The inadequacy of the last as a critic is well stated. "None ever couched a lance with narrower convictions. His own work and those of his pupils and masters singly occupy his mind; he is the bondsman, the zealot of his school." And just these defects are the antithesis to Stevenson's catholicity and openness as a critic.

BRIEFER NOTICES.

MR. RIDER HAGGARD has clearly a good deal to answer for. In cultivating the taste for the marvellous in the reading public he proportionately encourages a certain order of "paper stainers" to supply the demand for that order of literature. A clear imitation of "She" is a book called "Rondah, or Thirty-three Years in a Star," by Florence Carpenter Dieudonné, (T. B. Peterson & Bros.) It is a piece of hysterical folly of which it is hardly possible to tread a single page with patience.

"Lucas Malet" (understood to be a *nom de plume* for a daughter of Charles Kingsley), is a name pronounced with respect by readers of the better kind. It was noted a short time ago in THE AMERICAN that a new novel by this writer was in preparation and we therefore took occasion to say that a fresh work by the author of "Colonel Enderby's Wife" would be an event out of the common. Meanwhile, however, the holiday juvenile which is before us ("Little Peter," New York: D. Appleton & Co.) will claim attention,—if not quite as wide a one as a full-proportioned novel would do, still an interest of its own. "Little Peter" is further styled by its writer, "A Christmas Morality for Children of Any Age," in which characterization, as we think, the facts are most

happily expressed. It is a simple tale, but full of charm, of an humble charcoal-burner and a child for whom he has a tender affection. The scene is the Franco-German borderland which Erckmann-Chatrian have made so real to us, but not even those magicians of the pen have produced anything more vivid than this sweet idyll of the woods. The book is fairly but not obtrusively illustrated, and it will make an admirable holiday gift.

"A Garland for Girls," by Louisa M. Alcott, (Roberts Brothers, Boston), is a collection of agreeable little tales, each having a flower for a title, as "An Ivy Spray," "Pansies," "Water Lilies," "Mountain Laurel." All of Miss Alcott's earnest humanity, delicate humor, and marked story-telling capacity, are set forth in these stories; they are interesting throughout, and at the same time pure and helpful. We feel bound to protest against, in this otherwise handsome volume, the use made of it for publishers' advertising purposes. Books are too often spoiled by the binding in of advertising matter, but when it comes to a display card on the reverse of the page holding the table of contents, where it cannot be removed, a real imposition is practiced on the purchaser.

AUTHORS AND PUBLISHERS.

"THE Fishes of North America" is the title of an important work projected by Mr. Wm. C. Harris, editor of *The American Angler*, the publication of which in monthly numbers will, it is announced, be shortly begun. The work will consist of forty parts at \$1.50 each, but subscribers have the privilege of discontinuing their subscriptions if the plates and text of the first part are not satisfactory. Each part will contain the colored portraits, one foot in length, on heavy cardboard, of two fishes, taken at the moment of capture, as well as scientific classification and description, habitat, etc. A valuable work is here foreshadowed, and we wish the enterprising projector the success his energy deserves. The cost of the plates alone, Mr. Harris states, will aggregate \$15,000.

Prof. Henry Morley's "Cassell's National Library" is nearing its hundredth volume.—Swinburne's tragedy, "Loerine," will have the American imprint of the Worthington Co.—Mrs. Margaret Leland, author of the poetical collection, "The Old Garden," is about to publish her first novel. It is entitled "John Ward, Preacher," and will be brought out by Houghton, Mifflin & Co.

Appreciative sketches, personal and critical, of the late Emma Lazarus appear in the current number of *The Critic*, accompanied by a sonnet in memory of the dead poet by Charles de Kay. *The American Hebrew*, (New York,) for December 10, is a Lazarus memorial number, containing tributes to her talent and worth by a number of leading literary people.

Rev. Edward C. Towne is preparing a "Critical Life of Bacon," in which Bacon's occupation and way of life during the Shakespeare period will receive special attention.

M. Renan denies the report that he is about to publish the letters of Louis Napoleon to his foster-sister, Mme. Cornu. The letters are few in number, not especially interesting, and in M. Renan's opinion would not cast any new light on the career of the Emperor.

A new English edition of "Modern Painters," uniform with the recently issued "Stones of Venice," is in preparation. It will contain some hitherto unpublished plates, etched by Mr. Ruskin himself and mezzotinted by the late Thomas Lupton.

The net result of the "Authors' Readings" in New York, for the benefit of the Copyright League, was something like \$4,000.—Scribner & Welford are to be the American publishers of Julia Pardoe's "Court and Reign of Francis I," a sumptuous royal octavo of three volumes.—Ginn & Co. will publish next month "Number Stories; Readings in Arithmetic, for Little Children," by Miss L. J. Woodward.

On November 17th the Dutch celebrated the three hundredth birthday of their greatest poet, Joost van den Vondel. The Belgians and Rhinelanders also held "Vondel feasts"—the former in Antwerp, to which his family belonged; the latter in Cologne, which was his birthplace. The clergy took part in the celebration, as Vondel, who was at one time the deacon of a Mennonite congregation, became a convert to the Roman Catholic Church and a great friend of the Jesuits.

PERIODICAL LITERATURE.

A CHANGE will be made in the January number of *Lippincott*, in the character of its "Monthly Gossip." That will henceforth become an editorial department in which information will be given in answer to queries, and otherwise, on literary, scientific, and miscellaneous subjects. Queries from all sources are invited.

The Boston *Writer* has a "Literary Bureau," designed to serve as an intermediary between writers for the press and publishers. For a nominal fee, manuscript will be carefully read and advice given upon the best likelihood of disposing of it, &c.

The "Newspaper Syndicate" under the management of William F. Bok, includes for the coming year among its contributors, Wilkie Collins, Robert Burdette, Miss Louisa J. Alcott, Rev. Dr. Talmage, and Mrs. Henry Ward Beecher.

Asher, of Berlin, has issued the first number of a *Zeitschrift für Afrikanische sprachen*, (Journal of African Languages), edited by C. G. Büttner. The study of African dialects has now in Europe a considerable scientific as well as commercial importance.

The *Modern Language Notes* for December closes the second volume of this periodical. The number opens with an account of the action for modern languages in the meeting of the German Philosophical Association, held in Zurich toward the close of September. Prof. Schele de Vere, of the University of Virginia, gives an account of the origin of Volapük, and states its claims for general adoption.

In the January *St. Nicholas*, Mr. Whittier has a ballad entitled "The Blind Dwarf of Rügen." Several illustrations, by E. H. Blashfield, accompany it.

John Ruskin's portrait is to be the frontispiece of the January *Century*. The magazine will have a frank estimate of Mr. Ruskin, as a critic and teacher, by one who has traveled and studied with him, Mr. W. J. Stillman, the well-known art critic and correspondent.

In *Harper's Magazine* for January, Theodore Child has an article on "Modern French Sculpture," which calls public attention to the fact that sculpture is not a dead art but a living one, which thrives and advances in the French Republic as it does nowhere else in the world. The illustrations are excellent. In the same issue, Archdeacon Farrer discourses on "The Share of America in Westminster Abbey." He is, of course, an admirable cicerone, and no nook or cranny where American honors lie buried or are commemorated escapes his notice.

The venerable Dr. W. H. Furness contributes to *Lippincott's* for January some "Reminiscences" of his youthful days, including a dinner with John Quincy Adams.

"Boy Life on the Prairie—The Huskin'" in the January number of *The American Magazine*, will be the first of a series of crisp descriptive sketches, drawn by Hamlin Garland from his youthful experiences as a farmer's boy at the West.

The Christmas number of *The American Bookseller* is fully up to the mark of previous special holiday issues of this excellent trade journal. It is a very thorough epitome of the current publishing business, contains hundreds of specimen illustrations from standard books and books of the hour, and is finely printed on toned paper.

The Fowler & Wells Company announce that *Child Culture* is to be discontinued as a separate periodical and that it will hereafter appear as a department in the *Phrenological Journal*.

COMMUNICATIONS.

MR. PEARSALL SMITH'S COPYRIGHT PLAN.

To the Editor of THE AMERICAN:

MR. R. PEARSALL SMITH'S article in the current number of the *Nineteenth Century*, on International Copyright, has attracted considerable attention, and as a number of English authors seem to take it that the plan has been thoroughly sifted, and to a great extent agreed to by lawyers, publishers, and authors in this country, I think it but right to call attention to some of the unpractical features that Prof. Huxley's letter in the same number of the *Nineteenth Century* alludes to. Mr. Smith's plan is, in a nut-shell, to give any foreign author who complies with certain regulations the right to issue stamps to any American publisher, to the number of any edition of his book said publisher wishes to print. As many publishers as wish having the right to obtain stamps and print the work, and publishers issuing the book without stamps or using counterfeit stamps to be proceeded against by civil law and to pay certain penalties. I believe this states it fairly. Mr. Huxley is the only one of twelve writers who consider it who looks at the proposition practically; the others, with the exception perhaps of one or two, jump at the plan as better than nothing, and therefore to be upheld. Mr. Huxley, however, points out several objections that would prove very serious to both author and publisher, should the plan be adopted. He objects to it from the point of view of the author, because he believes that a book brought out by a responsible pains-taking publishing house will be printed carefully and in accord with the

author's wishes; whereas under Mr. Smith's scheme any house willing to print has the right of buying stamps and issuing an edition. This edition, especially in the case of a scientific, historical, or poetical work, may or may not be carefully printed; most likely it will not be, as the spirit of competition will lead to the rival editions being brought out at as small a cost as possible, entailing careless proof-reading and the resulting errors in the statement of facts, expressions, punctuation, etc.; and in the case of illustrated works, cuts that are not only cheap but worse than useless. All these errors will result to the discredit of the author. Again, should unauthorized editions appear, the expense of bringing suit, convicting and securing the penalty prescribed, would not only be great but be out of proportion to the result gained.

From the stand-point of the publishers, whom Prof. Huxley believes "to have as much claim to the possession of souls as other people," several similar objections arise. Supposing, as he does, that a certain responsible house secures the proper number of stamps, and proceeds to make a careful edition, under the wishes and supervision of the author. He pays for good printing and paper, advertises, and makes a market for the work, only to find that a rival in the next street has an edition poorly printed, which he sells for twenty-five cents less. He has not only borne the cost of manufacture, but has advanced the price of say ten thousand stamps, to find the whole a loss. Is it likely that he will repeat the experiment many times? He must either print editions as cheaply as possible, or not at all. It is useless to say that the public will buy the correct edition; the public will buy the cheap edition. This has been demonstrated over and over again. A number of examples could be stated where the cheap editions of works of the most technical character, with illustrations practically useless, have had large sales over the better printing.

Mr. Smith makes a statement that is so unjust, regarding the profits of publishers, that I will ask for a little more space to confute it. He says "that when all the cost of paper, printing, and binding has been paid, seven-eighths of the difference between the cost price and the price paid by the buyer goes into the hands of the publishers and booksellers, and one-eighth only to the author." Does he suppose that there are no advertising expenses, that the two or three hundred copies sent to periodicals for notice cost nothing, that there are no "store expenses," that the express companies and United States mail carry packages for nothing? Perhaps he has overlooked these little details. If, however, he has the *entrée* to the expense account of any publishing house, I suggest he takes an early opportunity of examining it. Again he says that "discounts such as given by British publishers to retail booksellers are hardly known in America, beyond a few of the leading city bookshops." A statement of this kind only serves to show his ignorance, for I do not believe that the booksellers of any country are or ever have been in a worse plight, owing to this very evil of discounts, than are those of the United States at this time.

By all means let us have an International Copyright, but let it be an honest one, not only to the author, but to the man who advances the cost, who, in many cases creates the demand, by the use of an elaborate and expensive organization, and who bears the whole loss, should it prove unsuccessful, as fifty per cent. of the books issued do.

K. M. BLAKISTON.

Philadelphia, December 10.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

- POEMS BY EDMUND ROWLAND SILL. Pp. 112. \$1.00. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.
- THE LAWYER, THE STATESMAN, AND THE SOLDIER. By George S. Boutwell. Pp. 232. \$1.25. New York: D. Appleton & Co.
- THE LITTLE FLOWERS OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI. Translated from the Italian by Abby Langdon Alger. Pp. 228. \$1.00. Boston: Roberts Bros.
- LOTUS AND JEWEL. Containing "In an Indian Temple," "A Casket of Gems," and "A Queen's Revenge." With Other Poems. By Edwin Arnold. Pp. 262. \$1.00. Boston: Roberts Brothers.
- THE DIVINE MAN, From the Nativity to the Temptation. By George Dana Boardman. Pp. 306. \$1.50. New York: D. Appleton & Co.
- WEATHER. A Popular Exposition of the Nature of Weather Changes, from Day to Day. By the Hon. Ralph Abernethy. (International Scientific Series.) 1 p. 472. \$1.75. New York: D. Appleton & Co.
- LITTLE PETER. A Christmas Morality for Children of any Age. By Lucas Malet. Pp. 163. \$1.25. New York: D. Appleton & Co.
- THE GAVEROCKS. A Tale of the Cornish Coast. Pp. 423. \$0.50. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Co.
- RONDAH; or THIRTY-THREE YEARS IN A STAR. By Florence Carpenter Diendonné. Pp. 230. \$0.75. Philadelphia: T. B. Peterson & Bros.
- LIFE AND LOVE. Poems. By Robert Burns Wilson. Pp. 268. \$1.50. New York: Cassell & Co.
- HEROIC BALLADS. Selected by the Editor of "Quiet Hours." Pp. 289. \$— . Boston: Roberts Brothers.
- THE NEW ASTRONOMY. By Samuel Pierpont Langley, PhD., LL.D. Pp. 260. \$5.00. Boston: Ticknor & Co.

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OFFICIAL NOTICES.

AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION PROPOSED to the citizens of this Commonwealth for their approval or rejection by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Published by order of the Commonwealth, in pursuance of Article XVIII. of the Constitution.

Joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of this Commonwealth.

Section 1. Be it resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, That the following amendment is proposed to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in accordance with the Eighteenth Article thereof:

AMENDMENT.

There shall be an additional article to said Constitution, to be designated as Article XIX. as follows:

ARTICLE XIX.

The manufacture, sale, or keeping for sale of intoxicating liquor, to be used as a beverage, is hereby prohibited, and any violation of this prohibition shall be a misdemeanor, punishable as shall be provided by law.

The manufacture, sale, or keeping for sale of intoxicating liquor for other purposes than as a beverage may be allowed in such manner only as may be prescribed by law. The General Assembly shall, at the first session succeeding the adoption of this article of the Constitution, enact laws with adequate penalties for its enforcement.

A true copy of the Joint Resolution.

CHARLES W. STONE,
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OFFICIAL NOTICES.

AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION PROPOSED to the citizens of this Commonwealth for their approval or rejection by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Published by order of the Secretary of the Commonwealth, in pursuance of Article XVIII. of the Constitution.

Joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth:

SECTION 1. Be it resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, that the following is proposed as an amendment of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in accordance with the provisions of the eighteenth article thereof:

AMENDMENT.

Strike out from section one, of article eight, the four qualifications for voters, which read as follows:

"If 22 years of age or upwards, he shall have paid, within two years, a state or county tax, which shall have been assessed at least two months, and paid at least on month before the election," so that the section which reads as follows:

"Every male citizen, 21 years of age, possessing the following qualifications, shall be entitled to vote at all elections:

First. He shall have been a citizen of the United States at least one month.

Second. He shall have resided in the State one year (or if, having previously been a qualified elector or native born citizen of the State, he shall have removed therefrom and returned, then six months) immediately preceding the election.

Third. He shall have resided in the election district where he shall offer to vote at least two months immediately preceding the election.

Fourth. If 22 years of age or upwards, he shall have paid, within two years, a state or county tax, which shall have been assessed at least two months, and paid at least one month before the election," shall be amended, so as to read as follows:

"Every male citizen 21 years of age, possessing the following qualifications, shall be entitled to vote at the polling place of the election district of which he shall at the time be a resident and not elsewhere:

First. He shall have been a citizen of the United States at least thirty days.

Second. He shall have resided in the State one year (or if, having previously been a qualified elector or native born citizen of the State, he shall have removed therefrom and returned, then six months) immediately preceding the election.

Third. He shall have resided in the election district where he shall offer to vote at least thirty days immediately preceding the election. The Legislature, at the session thereof next after the adoption of this section, shall, and from time to time thereafter may, enact laws to properly enforce this provision.

Fourth. Every male citizen of the age of 21 years, who shall have been a citizen for thirty days and an inhabitant of this State one year next preceding an election, except at municipal elections, and for the last thirty days a resident of the election district in which he may offer his vote, shall be entitled to vote at such election in the election district of which he shall at the time be a resident and not elsewhere for all officers that now are or hereafter may be elected by the people: *Provided*, That in time of war no elector in the actual military service of the State or of the United States, in the army or navy thereof, shall be deprived of his vote by reason of his absence from such election district, and the Legislature shall have power to provide the manner in which and the time and place at which such absent electors may vote, and for the return and canvass of their votes in the election district in which they respectively reside.

Fifth. For the purpose of voting, no person shall be deemed to have gained or lost a residence by reason of his presence or absence while employed in the service of the United States or the State, nor while engaged in the navigation of the waters of the State or of the high seas, nor while a student of any college or seminary of learning, nor while kept at any almshouse or public institution, except the inmates of any home for disabled and indigent soldiers and sailors, who, for the purpose of voting, shall be deemed to reside in the election district where said home is located. Laws shall be made for ascertaining, by proper proofs, the citizens who shall be entitled to the right of suffrage hereby established.

A true copy of the joint resolution.

CHARLES W. STONE,
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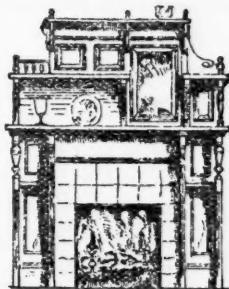
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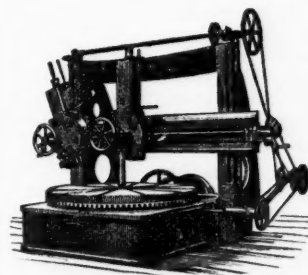
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OFFICERS:

WILLIAM BROCKIE, President.
WHARTON BARKER, Vice President.
HENRY M. HOYT, Jr., Treasurer.
ETHELBERT WATTS, Secretary.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

WILLIAM BROCKIE, WHARTON BARKER,
GEORGE S. PEPPER, HENRY C. GIBSON,
MORTON MCMICHAEL, T. WISTAR BROWN,
ISAAC H. CLOTHIER.

THE INVESTMENT COMPANY OF PHILADELPHIA.

310 CHESTNUT STREET,
PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 28, 1887.

The Board of Directors of this Company has this day declared a dividend of THREE PER CENT, being One Dollar and Fifty Cents per share on the capital stock out of the profits of the Company, payable on and after December 15, 1887, to stockholders as registered at the close of business November 30, 1887.

The Transfer books will be closed from 3 o'clock, November 30, inst., until 10 o'clock, December 2, prox. By Order of the Board,
ETHELBERT WATTS, Secretary.

INCORPORATED 1836. CHARTER PERPETUAL.

THE GIRARD

LIFE INSURANCE, ANNUITY AND TRUST
Co. OF PHILADELPHIA.

Office, 2020 Chestnut St.

CAPITAL, \$500,000. SURPLUS, \$1,400,000

ACTS AS EXECUTOR, ADMINISTRATOR,
GUARDIAN, TRUSTEE, COMMITTEE OR
RECEIVER, AND RECEIVES DEPOSITS
ON INTEREST, AND INSURES
LIVES AND GRANTS ANNUITIES.

President, Effingham B. Morris.

Vice-President and Treasurer, Henry Tatnall,
Actuary, William P. Huston.

Assistant Treasurer, William N. Ely.

Solicitor, George Tucker Bispham.

BANKERS AND BROKERS.

BARKER BROTHERS & Co.

BANKERS AND BROKERS,

125 South Fourth Street,
PHILADELPHIA.

Execute orders for Stocks, Bonds, allow Interest on Deposits, and transact a general Banking and Brokerage Business.

INSURANCE AND TRUST COS.

THE FIDELITY
Insurance, Trust and Safe Deposit
Company of Philadelphia.

325-331 CHESTNUT STREET.

Charter Perpetual.

CAPITAL, \$2,000,000. SURPLUS, \$1,750,000.

SECURITIES AND VALUABLES of every description, including BONDS and STOCKS, PLATE, JEWELRY, DEEDS, etc., taken for SAFE KEEPING on SPECIAL GUARANTEE at the lowest rates.

Vault Doors guarded by the Yale and Hall Time Locks.

The Company also RENTS SAFES INSIDE ITS BURGLAR-PROOF VAULTS, at prices varying from \$15 to \$75, according to size. An extra size for corporations and bankers; also, desirable safes in upper vaults for \$10. Rooms and desks adjoining vaults provided for safe-renters.

DEPOSITS OF MONEY RECEIVED ON INTEREST.

INCOME COLLECTED and remitted for a moderate charge.

The Company acts as EXECUTOR, ADMINISTRATOR and GUARDIAN, and RECEIVES AND EXECUTES TRUSTS of every description from the courts, corporations and individuals.

ALL TRUST FUNDS AND INVESTMENTS are kept separate and apart from the assets of the Company. As additional security, the Company has a special trust capital of \$1,000,000, primarily responsible for its trust obligations.

WILLS RECEIPTED FOR and safely kept without charge.

STEPHEN A. CALDWELL, President.
JOHN B. GEST, Vice-President, and in charge of the Trust Department.

ROBERT PATTERSON, Treasurer and Secretary.

CHAS. ATHERTON, Assistant Treasurer.

R. L. WRIGHT, Jr., Assistant Secretary.

DIRECTORS.

STEPHEN A. CALDWELL, WILLIAM H. MERRICK,
EDWARD W. CLARK, JOHN B. GEST,
GEORGE F. TYLER, EDWARD T. STEEL,
HENRY C. GIBSON, THOMAS DRAKE,
THOMAS MCKEAN, C. A. GIBSON,
JOHN C. BULLITT.

CAPITAL, \$1,000,000.

The Guarantee,

TRUST AND SAFE DEPOSIT COMPANY

In its New Fire-Proof Building,

Nos. 316, 318 & 320 Chestnut Street,

IS PREPARED TO RENT SAFES IN ITS FIRE AND BURGLAR PROOF VAULTS, with Combination and Permutation Locks that can be opened only by the renter, at \$9, \$10, \$14, \$16 and \$20; large sizes for corporations and bankers.

ALLOW INTEREST ON DEPOSITS OF MONEY, ACT AS EXECUTOR, ADMINISTRATOR, GUARDIAN, Assignee, Committee, Receiver, Agent, Attorney, etc.

EXECUTE TRUSTS of every kind under appointment of States, Courts, Corporations or Individuals—holding Trust Funds separate and apart from all other assets of the Company.

COLLECT INTEREST OR INCOME, and transact all other business authorized by its charter.

RECEIVE FOR SAFE KEEPING, UNDER GUARANTEE, VALUABLES of every description, such as Coupon, Registered and other Bonds, Certificates of Stock, Deeds, Mortgages, Coin, Plate, Jewelry, etc. etc.

RECEIPT FOR AND SAFELY KEEP WILLS without charge.

For further information, call at the office or send for a circular.

THOMAS COCHRAN, President.

EDWARD C. KNIGHT, Vice-President.

HENRY J. DELANY, Treasurer.

JOHN JAY GILROY, Secretary.

RICHARD C. WINSHIP, Trust Officer.

DIRECTORS.

Thomas Cochran, W. Rotch Wister,
Edward C. Knight, Alfred Fittler,
J. Barlow Moorhead, Charles S. Hinchman,
Thomas MacKellar, J. Dickinson Sergeant,
John J. Stadiger, Aaron Fries,
Clayton French, Charles A. Sparks,
Joseph Moore, Jr.

INSURANCE AND TRUST COMPANIES.

THE AMERICAN FIRE
INSURANCE COMPANY.

Office in Company's Building,
308 & 310 Walnut St., Phila.

CASH CAPITAL, \$500,000.00
RESERVED FOR REINSURANCE AND ALL OTHER CLAIMS, 1,383,298.65
SURPLUS OVER ALL LIABILITIES, 461,120.10

TOTAL ASSETS, OCTOBER 1ST, 1887,

\$2,344,418.75.

DIRECTORS:

T. H. MONTGOMERY, ALEXANDER BIDDLE,
JOHN T. LEWIS, CHAS. P. PEROT,
ISRAEL MORRIS, JOS. E. GILLINGHAM,
P. S. HUTCHINSON, SAMUEL WELSH,
CHARLES S. WHELEN,

THOMAS H. MONTGOMERY, President,
RICHARD MARIS, Secretary,
JAMES B. YOUNG, Actuary.

INSURANCE AT ACTUAL COST.

CHARTERED 1835.

NEW ENGLAND MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY,

BOSTON,

SURPLUS - \$2,395,450.73

No speculative features. Annual returns of surplus. Yearly progressive cash values fixed by Massachusetts law, indorsed on every policy. Equal to an interest-bearing bond, with insurance at nominal cost. An excellent collateral. No forfeiture.

Attention is also called to the NEW FEATURE IN LIFE INSURANCE adopted by this company, of issuing Endowment Policies for precisely the same premium heretofore charged for whole Life Policies.

BENJ. F. STEVENS, JOS. M. GIBBENS,
President, Secretary

MARSTON & WAKELIN, GENERAL AGENTS,
No. 226 S. Fourth Street, Philadelphia.

The Provident

LIFE AND TRUST COMPANY
OF PHILADELPHIA.

OFFICE, No. 409 CHESTNUT STREET.

Incorporated 3d month, 22d, 1865. Charter perpetual.
Capital, \$1,000,000. Assets, \$19,472,860.02.

INSURES LIVES, GRANTS ANNUITIES, RECEIVES MONEY ON DEPOSIT returnable on demand, for which interest is allowed, and is empowered by law to act as EXECUTOR, ADMINISTRATOR, TRUSTEE, GUARDIAN, ASSIGNEE, COMMITTEE, RECEIVER, AGENT, &c., for the faithful performance of which its capital and surplus fund furnish ample security.

ALL TRUST FUNDS AND INVESTMENTS ARE KEPT SEPARATE AND APART from the assets of the Company.

The incomes of parties residing abroad, carefully collected and duly remitted.

SAMUEL R. SHIPLEY, President.

T. WISTAR BROWN, Vice-President.

ASA S. WING, Vice-President and Actuary.

JOSEPH ASHBROOK, Manager of Insurance Dep't.

J. ROBERTS FOULKE, Trust Officer

DIRECTORS:

Sam'l R. Shipley, Israel Morris,
T. Wistar Brown, Chas. Hartshorne,
Richard Cadbury, Wm. Gummere,
Henry Haines, Frederic Collins,
Richard Wood, Philip C. Garrett,
William Hacker, Justus C. Strawbridge,
J. M. Albertson, James V. Watson,
Asa S. Wing.